REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 2-7, 9-15, and 17-21 would remain pending, with claims 1, 8, and 16 canceled.

I. Regarding the final Office Action and the Advisory Action

In the final Office Action¹, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-8, 13-16, and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,725,649 to Deerfield ("Deerfield"); and rejected claims 2, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deerfield in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,991,131 to Yeh et al. ("Yeh"). The Examiner indicated that claims 3, 4, 11, 12, 17, and 18 contain allowable subject matter (Office Action mailed May 5, 2005, at p. 5).

In the Advisory Office Action, the Examiner asserted

[t]he Examiner has clearly disclosed or explained in the previous Office action that the cited reference has discloses [siq] the limitations above wherein the intermmediate [siq] stages are boxes label with numbers 30, 34, and 24 in Figure 1. Also, the cited reference clearly discloses a multiplication of a normalized and un-normalized operands wherein the normalized operand is the output of 28 ... and the un-normalized operand is the output of 22. The input multiplicand 28 originally is un-normalized operand, but it is shifted left by a control signal ... prior [to] entering the digital multiplier (e.g. 30). Therefore, Deerfield clearly discloses a multiplication in Figure 2 of a subprecise or normalized operand and a non-precise or un-normalized operand as cited in the claimed invention

Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's rejections. Nevertheless, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant cancels independent claims 1, 8, and 16, rendering

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

moot the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Deerfield.

II. Regarding the Amendment of the claims

By this amendment, Applicant presents claims 3, 11, and 17 in independent form, and amends claims 2, 5-7, 9, 13-15, and 19-21 to maintain antecedent basis.

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 2-7, 9-15, and 17-21 in condition for allowance, as indicated in the Examiner's final Office Action at page 5. Applicant submits that the proposed amendments of claims 3, 11, and 17 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Furthermore, applicant submits that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 4, 2005

Nathan A. Sloar

Reg. No. 56,249